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Letter dated 14 December 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you a copy of the press release signed in Quito on 14 December 1995 by the Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and Peru on the occasion of the re-establishment of the Bilateral Diplomatic Consultative Mechanism between the countries.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 70 (j), 71 (b) and 81, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luis VALENCIA RODRIGUEZ
Permanent Representative

Annex

Press release

Pursuant to the agreements contained in the Brasilia Declaration of 6 October 1995 and at the invitation of the Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador, Mr. Marcelo Fernández de Córdoba, the Deputy Minister of International Policy and the Secretary-General for Foreign Affairs of Peru, Mr. Jorge Voto Bernales, visited Quito on 14 December 1995 for the purpose of resuming consideration of topics related to good-neighbourly relations and cooperation and re-establishing the Bilateral Diplomatic Consultative Mechanism.

In the course of the talks, the Deputy Ministers reviewed the progress that had been made in the peace process and underscored the efforts to achieve a climate of normality and détente in relations between the two countries.

At the same time, the Deputy Ministers emphasized the importance of the meeting between the Ecuadorian and Peruvian Ministers for Foreign Affairs to be held in Lima in January 1996, which reflects the firm commitment of the two Governments to continue to strengthen the peace process and begin talks on ways of implementing paragraph 6 of the Itamaraty Declaration.

The Deputy Ministers announced that, at their meeting in Lima, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs would also discuss the question of arms acquisition by the two countries.

They expressed their appreciation for the effective contribution of the Guarantor Countries and the activities carried out by the Military Observer Mission, as well as their satisfaction with the decision to extend the Mission in order to enable it to continue to support the consolidation of the peace process.

The Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs stressed the importance of the Diplomatic Consultative Mechanism as a valuable instrument for promoting cooperation in all aspects of their relations as neighbours. They agreed on the terms of the notes that will be exchanged between the Governments of Ecuador and Peru with a view to establishing the Commission on Good-Neighbourly Relations, which will be chaired by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and Peru and composed of high-level representatives of the public and private sectors of the two countries.

They also considered the priority issues that the Commission will deal with, and reviewed the following draft agreements that will be signed in the near future by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and Peru:

- Cooperation in the field of health;
- Cooperation in cases of natural disasters;
- Protection of cultural heritage;

- Recognition of academic qualifications.

At the conclusion of his visit, the Deputy Minister of Peru expressed his thanks for the warm welcome he had received and invited his Ecuadorian counterpart to the next meeting of the Bilateral Diplomatic Consultative Mechanism, to be held in Lima during the first half of 1996.

Quito, 14 December 1995